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United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management • Arizona

Congressional Staff Briefing
Tuesday, September 26, 2006 • 9 a.m.

Agenda

Welcome and Comments

Elaine Zielinski
BLM Arizona State
Director

San Pedro Water Rights

Bill Civish
Gila District Manager

Border Update

Shela McFarlin
Special Assistant

Fire Season Recap

Helen Graham
Assistant Fire
Management
Officer

Information Sharing

Congressional Staff

Bureau of Land Management • Arizona State Office

Congressional Briefing
Tuesday, September 26, 2006 • 9:00 a.m.

SIGN-IN SHEET

Name (please print)	Affiliation
William Civish	Gila District BLM
Helen C Graham	AZ STATE OFFICE FIRE
BUD SHAVER	ASO BLM LE
Ryan Serote	Rep. JD Hayworth
Mary Baumbach	U.S. Rep Jeff Flake
Bruce Raden	" " Shadegg
CARLOS SIERRA	Senator John McCain
Shela McFarlin	BLM ASO [Tucson]

Mike Taylor

BLM ASO

Bonnie Hogan
Joanie Lusaco
Elaine Zielinski
Carol Rountree

BLM ASO

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BLM Congressional Staff Briefing

September 26, 2006

**BLM Arizona State Office
One North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ**

TALKING POINTS

- **Welcome Remarks:**
- **Personnel Update:** Shifts in the organization are occurring with retirements, and new appointments to a number of executive leadership positions throughout the Bureau. One of the retirements has already occurred with Larry Benna, the BLM Deputy Director, leaving in July. Henri Bisson who is currently the Alaska State Director, and has served as a district manager in Arizona, will be replacing Larry Benna as the BLM Deputy Director for Operations. In addition, we have Bill Civish, the Gila District manager, planning to retire at the end of this year.

Becky Heick, the Yuma Field Manager, will be acting as the Colorado River District manager, until the position is filled.

- **New Grazing Regulation:** Federal Judge B. Lynn Winmill of the U.S. District Court for Idaho has placed a temporary injunction on BLM's new grazing regulations issued last month. The changes in the grazing regulations have been halted as a result of lawsuit filed by environmental groups who claim the new regulations will prevent public participation.

The grazing regulations were litigated and currently all changes are in effect except the interested public regulations. The final rule does not prohibit the involvement of interested publics at any time. Although involvement by the interested public is no longer mandatory when considering certain actions, the authorized officer may include the interested public any time they believe their input would be useful.

However, participation by the interested public is still mandatory when preparing reports that evaluate monitoring and other data to be used as a basis for making decisions concerning changes to the terms and conditions of a permit or lease, and/or in development of Allotment Management Plans or their function equivalent. The new rule also does not change the public participation opportunities available through the NEPA process.

BACKGROUND: BLM developed the new regulations with extensive public input, which included more than 18,000 comments after the Bureau proposed its regulations in

December 2003. In addition, more than 8,300 comments were received during a 'scoping' period that identified issues to be considered in the rulemaking process. The BLM also considered comments that came in after the close of the public comment period on the proposed regulations and draft environmental impact analysis; those late comments were addressed in an addendum to the BLM's final environmental impact analysis.

- **Land Exchanges and Tenure Status:** As you know the real estate market in the past year has been volatile in Arizona. Because of this volatility, BLM has decided not to consider any land exchange proposals in the metropolitan areas. We continue to be approached by various proponents to conduct land exchanges, and even though the market has slowed down the market is still not stable in our estimation. Consequently, we will continue to pass on these offers.

BLM has recently obligated over 2.5 million dollars for acquisition of a conservation easement on the Babocomari Land Grant. This action secures valuable riparian habitat occupied by endangered species and protects the area from development and subsequent use of valuable water resources in the controversial Sierra Vista watershed. Negotiations with the Brophy family, long time owners of the property, have been ongoing for over two years. This is a great success in the Bureau's efforts to protect the San Pedro River and Ft. Huachaca.

We are also in the process of preparing for a land sale in the Metro Area, and hope to conduct a sale sometime next summer.

***Specific Information:** The Lower Sonoran Field Office is conducting preliminary work that could potentially begin the initiation of a proposed land sale around or near Goodyear, Arizona. All work is subject to review and, at this time, is being considered to determine feasibility only.*

- **Land Use Planning Update:** Included in your folders is a handout outlining the status of Arizona BLM's land use planning efforts. There are several final and draft resource management plans and environmental impact statements being issued to the public for review and comment this fall. The Lake Havasu Field Office Proposed Resource Management Plan (PRMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was released last week. The Arizona Strip PRMP/FEIS and Yuma Field Office, Ironwood Forest National Monument and Sonoran Desert National Monument Draft Resource Management Plans and Draft Environmental Impact Statements will follow in November and December 2006. The Agua Fria/Bradshaw/Harquahala PRMP and FEIS will be released in early 2007.
- **Flooding in Aravaipa:** Access to Aravaipa Canyon is now blocked from both entrances. The Safford Field Office is still assessing the impacts of monsoon rainfall, but field inspections thus far have revealed extensive damage from more than a foot of rain that was recorded in the Klondyke area. Flooding heavily impacted riparian areas by

removing trees and plants along rivers and streams; the formerly lush Aravaipa Canyon has been scoured of vegetation; rock outcrops and the gravel creek bed are all that remain in some areas. Floods caused heavy damage to access roads and facilities; roads leading to both sides of the wilderness have been washed out. Residents living near the west end of the wilderness felt that the impacts were worse than the 1983 floods. The BLM has discontinued issuing wilderness permits and has cancelled permits issued prior to the floods. It will likely be months before the roads are repaired.

- **Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement Act:** An interagency agreement to implement the Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement Act was signed by DOI - Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett and Secretary of Agriculture Mark Rey on Sept 1. The law allows the BLM and Forest Service to use existing RACs, or to establish new Recreation RACs, to provide advice and recommendations on recreation fees and new fee areas in Arizona. Implementation of the interagency agreement will begin this winter across the Bureau. In Arizona, BLM and FS staff has been working with the RAC on developing a protocol and a schedule for hearing the agencies' recreation fee proposals. The protocol and schedule will be finalized and initiated at the next RAC meeting in Phoenix on December 6.
- **Antiquities Centennial Update:** With less than a month and a half to go, the BLM Statewide Team is busy organizing Arizona's Antiquities signature event on the Agua Fria National Monument on Saturday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Agua Fria Festival is shaping up to be a fun-filled public event to help celebration the 100th anniversary of the Antiquities Act. This free public event will be hosted at the Horseshoe Ranch in the heart of BLM's Agua Fria National Monument. There will be a lot of activities for the public to enjoy, including hikes to prehistoric ruins – Pueblo La Plata, Badger Ruins and Badger Spring Wash; old west history demonstrations – Wild West characters; Native American music and dancing, and some wonderful children's projects. A short recognition ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. to recognize the significance of Arizona's cultural resources, and all of the volunteers who join the adventure to honor the past and shape the future. We'll have some Washington representation, and we are hoping to get one or two members of Arizona's congressional delegation to participate in the event.

You and your member should have received a personal invitation by now, and we hope you'll be able to help BLM spread the word, and join us on Saturday, October 21. We've included a flyer in your package with some detailed information.

**Congressional Staff Briefing
Tuesday, September 26, 2006
9:00 a.m.
Arizona State Office
Phoenix A&B Conference Room**

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5. National Public Lands Day
6. Antiquities Act Centennial – Agua Fria Festival



San Pedro Federal Reserve Water Rights

September 2006

ISSUES:

The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) is administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A Federal Reserve water right was created as part of the legislation establishing the SPRNCA. The BLM has received a certificated instream flow water right from the State of Arizona. BLM has complied and filed an amended claim to quantify the Federal Reserve Water Right (FRWR) on February 2, 2006. The Gila River Adjudicative Special Master made a decision in August 2006, that BLM attempt to process the FRWR claim through a Settlement Committee process, rather than through the normal adjudicative process. The primary bases for the decision was due to Arizona Department of Water Resources existing workload not permitting them to prepare a required Hydrographic Survey Report for the normal adjudicative process. BLM supports the settlement committee process to avoid further delay's that will contribute to continued public concern that BLM and the adjudicative process is not moving fast enough to protect the SPRNCA resources.

SUMMARY:

The state courts have recognized that the FRWR confers some protection against damage to the SPRNCA from groundwater pumping. A BLM team has gathered the data, conducted studies and analysis, and has established a minimum quantity of water necessary to fulfill the purposes of the reservation.

Quantification of the minimum amount of water for the San Pedro River includes, monthly median and flood flows for the main stem of the San Pedro River and the Babocomari River tributary, point sources, and groundwater levels to support the riparian vegetation. Some groundwater models show that the river's perennial flow could cease in less than 25 years.

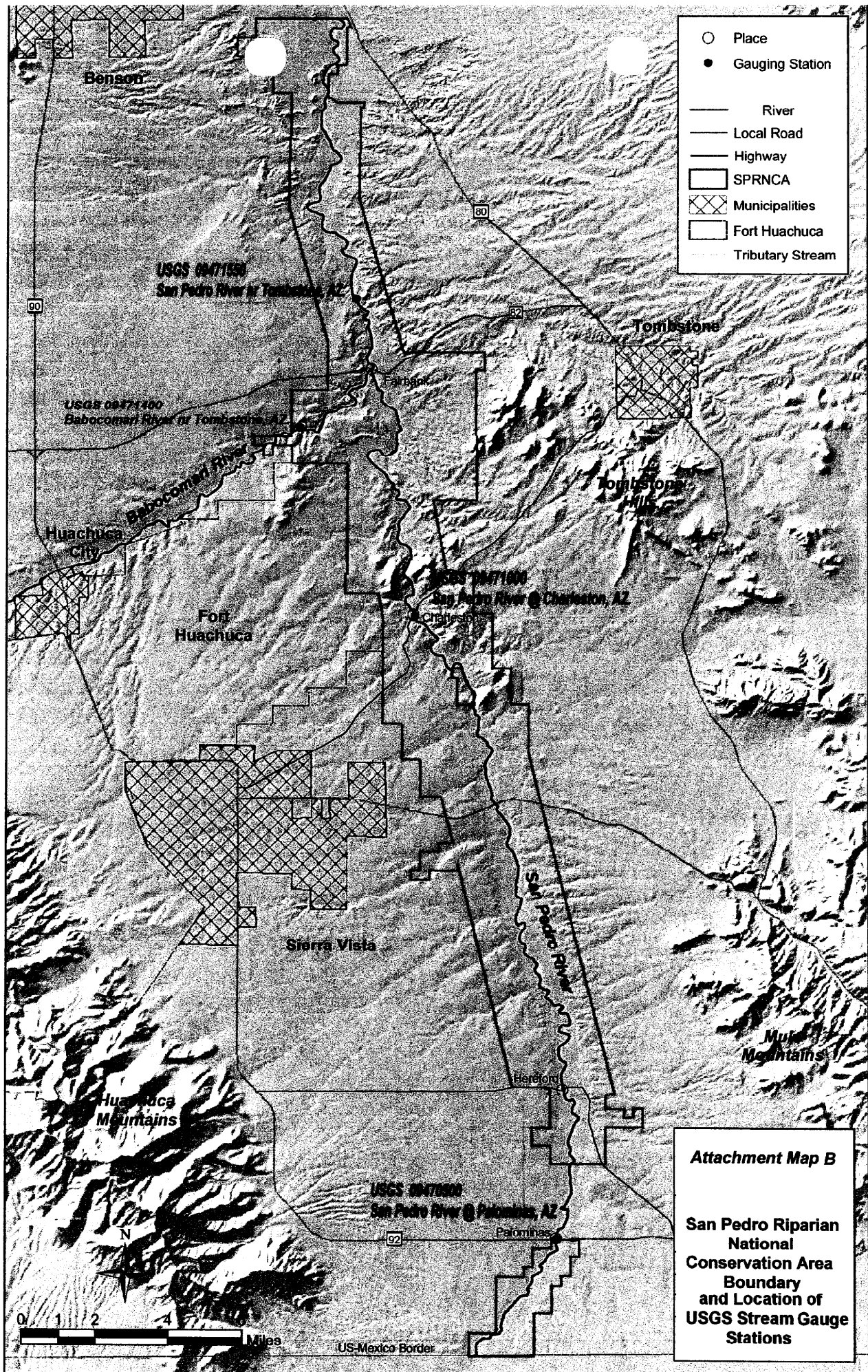
BLM PERSPECTIVE:

The BLM has pursued multiple, parallel tracks to help mitigate the effects of groundwater pumping in the region and to prepare for pursuing the Federal Reserve water claims. These include: 1) participation in the Upper San Pedro Partnership (USPP) to ensure direct input into future water allocation and natural resource issue resolution; 2) work with the USPP to implement projects to augment and conserve water to sustain the aquifer; 3) quantify and file the federal reserve water claim required through Public Law 100-696; 4) participate, monitor, and verify actions required under Public Law 108-195; and 5) acquire land and conservation easements adjacent to the SPRNCA to limit urban development and to retire agricultural irrigation.

BLM will continue to pursue multiple tracks to protect the SPRNCA. It will also continue to explore other options to protect the SPRNCA. It will also continue to place a high priority on securing a certificate FRWR as directed under Public Law 100-696.

CONTACT:

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500





Managing BLM Public Lands Along the Border

September 2006

The Borderlands and Current Trends on BLM lands:

The Borderlands are the lands within a zone 100 miles north of the US border with Mexico. Impacts extend beyond the 100 miles. In Arizona, within this zone are the Ironwood Forest and Sonoran Desert National Monuments (NM) and the San Pedro Riparian and Las Cienegas National Conservation Areas (NCA) as well as wilderness and other significant areas.

Since the late 1990's, impacts from smuggling activities, including drugs and undocumented immigrants (UDIs), have increased. In Arizona, the number of UDIs apprehended range from 376,302 in FY02 to 577,390 in FY05. The number of UDI deaths has steadily increased from 145 in FY02 to 251 in FY05 and fortunately dropping in FY2006. Monument and NCA lands are greatly impacted with trash, trails, abandoned vehicles and road damage 70 to 100 miles north of the actual border. Associated fires and acts of violence are increasing and have become especially intense in the Colorado River corridor.

These issues as well as the requirements to coordinate on border security with the Department of Homeland Security (Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Border Patrol (BP), create workloads for Arizona offices.

The Southern Arizona Project:

This multi-year project to mitigate the impacts of illegal immigration and smuggling has been funded between 2003 and 2006 through Congressional added-on supplements for a total of \$3.4 million funds. Over 150 projects have been completed in Southern Arizona to mitigate the impacts involving public, county, private, state and tribal lands.

Full end of year reports and accomplishments for the project may be found at:
http://www.blm.gov/az/undoc_alien/reports.htm

The report---A Summary of 2003-2005 Accomplishments---summarizes the partners and provides a description of the impacts and the projects to mitigate these. About 12 major partners and over 20 volunteer groups or associations have aided the southern field offices in projects ranging from trash removal to construction of barriers. Over 250,000 lbs of trash have been collected including 30 cubic yards of tires. Over 600 abandoned vehicles have been removed, mainly by towing and over 1725 bicycles have been picked up (many recycled). Illegal routes have been rehabilitated to erase these; over 50 miles of road have been maintained or improved for safety. Fencing and barriers have been constructed to protect special habitats or places.

The Southwest Borderlands Strategic Plan:

Currently Arizona BLM offices, in coordination with BLM New Mexico and California, are identifying the major workloads which much be accomplished related to border activities and support during 2008 and beyond. Assessing the impacts to public lands and neighbors is one critical step that is needed to direct how The Southern Arizona Project and other efforts will mitigate drug and human smuggling impacts and to restore habitats and riparian areas need attention.

The Borderlands Management Task Force:

Since 2002, the Borderland Management Task Force (BMTF), which now consists of 27 participants, has met as an Arizona forum working on border issues related to resource protection, safety and border security. The BMTF Arizona (which meets in Tucson) has now been spent off to San Diego, Yuma and New Mexico. In addition to being a successful forum for four years, the BMTF has also completed specific efforts such as the Communication Guide for Law Enforcement Officers, standard recommendations for borderland signage, and the upcoming training DVDs in cooperation with the Forest Service for border employees.

Another successful effort is the Colorado River corridor salt cedar removal and treatment project. This multi-agency effort is being coordinated through the BMTF Yuma to carry out emergency removal of salt cedar to ensure officer safety and then to evaluate a larger project with 24 miles of border vegetation. The Yuma Field Office is heavily involved in this project planning along with DHS, other federal, state and local agencies, and with the Cocopah Tribe. The implementation got under way in September, with multi-agency resources and funding.

Visitor safety along the border is of increasing concern to BMTF agencies along with the diminishing quality of visits to border locations covered with trash and evidence of illegal smuggling. BLM has signed some lands warning visitors of smuggling activities. The greatest risk to visitors is from high speed chases and smugglers after their vehicles.

Supporting DHS efforts for Border Security:

For the last three years, BLM staffs have supported DHS CBP BP efforts through realty actions, coordination of projects, and shared operations and intelligence by law enforcement. The March 2006 National Memorandum of Understanding signed between DOI, DHS and the Department of Agriculture identifies processes for resolving issues related to access, security, infrastructure, and the 60 ft strip created by the Roosevelt Reservation in 1907. Monthly meetings are held in Tucson and Yuma to coordinate the border security requirements for tactical infrastructure. BLM manages 44 miles of the border and 3,721,689 acres within 100 miles of the border that are affected by the success of these projects.

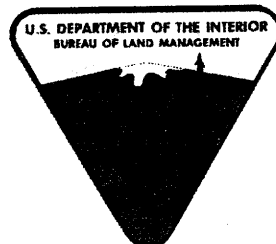
CONTACT:

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500

**Southern Arizona Project
to
Mitigate Environmental Damages
Resulting from Illegal Immigration**



**A SUMMARY OF 2003 - 2005
ACCOMPLISHMENTS**





BLM Arizona FY 2006 Fire Accomplishments

September 2006

ISSUES: The busy fire season of 2005 was followed by a weak monsoon and prolonged fire season into the fall and winter of 2005/2006. This combination left large amounts of fine fuels from the previous season available for burning and added to the drought stress in the mid- and upper elevations of the state. This combination created another challenging year for BLM fire managers in Arizona.

SUMMARY: The 2005 fire season was quite severe in Arizona, as well as southern Utah, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Arizona, as a whole, experienced 2,943 fires, of those fires 1,654 were caused by lightning and 1,289 from human related sources. In total, these fires burned almost 200,000 acres. BLM firefighters spent a long spring and summer fighting over 392 fires of all sizes, burning over 40,668 acres. While this is dramatically lower than the number of acres burned by BLM than in 2006, BLM actually experienced about 100 more fires, and still exceeded the historical average for BLM Arizona of approximately 35,000 acres. The fire activity occurred throughout most of our state. Residual annual grass loading from 2005 fueled a great deal of activity within the state, as did the drought stress experienced in the brush, and combined drought and extensive bug-killed timber in the high country. BLM managers worked early in the year with interagency partners locally and nationally to prepare for the 2006 season. Severity funding was sought in February, which was unprecedented. National aviation resources and hotshot crews were mobilized early to Arizona in preparation for the early onset of the season.

With the continued expansion of rural communities into undeveloped areas, the risk of damage to those communities either by natural or human caused ignitions increases every year. In addition, most rural communities are quite dependent on their natural surroundings for aesthetics, products, services or recreation. Their local infrastructures and economies generally rely on marketing the environment that surrounds them. These values are particularly vulnerable in fragile desert ecosystems, which are not adapted to fire and can take a lifetime to recover from the effects of a damaging fire. Protecting those resources, particularly those adjacent to public lands, is very important.

The BLM Arizona Rural Fire Assistance Program continued in 2006 to support rural fire department suppression readiness by providing grants and assistance. In 2006, BLM awarded nearly \$475,000 to fire departments. This program facilitates proper training, purchase of personal protection & safety equipment, communications equipment as well as much needed Wildland firefighting tools. As in most rural areas of the West, Arizona rural fire departments are the first to respond to wildfire incidents, helping to keep fires small and away from homes, structures and local improvements.

BLM Arizona also received funding for a new program, the Ready Reserve. This also designed to assist rural fire departments and their communities, but is more focused on training, personal protective equipment and radios. In 2006, Arizona BLM awarded \$115,000 in Ready Reserve Funds to support the Arizona Wildfire Academy, and to the State of Arizona for the development of their handheld radio cache.

The BLM continues to be actively engaged in supporting the development of local and county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) across the State. These plans are created by local communities to coordinate, arrange and document the specific tasks needed to improve their safety and ability to respond to local wildfire incidents. These plans also provide a framework to assist communities seek funding in the form of grants to achieve their protection goals. In 2006, plans were completed for Graham County, Greenlee County as well 2 for La Paz County (Eastern and Western including the

communities of Bouse, Cibola, Ehrenberg and Parker). Additionally, the towns of Black Canyon City and Congress were added to the Yavapai Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The communities of Palominas and St. David have recently completed their plans and should have them approved early in fiscal year 2007, as should the CWPP for communities in the Northern Hualapai Mountains. Additional communities that are under agreement for completion of their protection plans in 2007, include Yuma County, Central Navajo County and the City of Kingman.

BLM-sponsored fire prevention specialists have worked with communities across Arizona to educate homeowners that protecting their homes from wildfires is primarily a personal responsibility. Defensible space, building maintenance and access routes are part of the message presented to local citizens by all wildfire agencies.

The 2006 season was also a challenging one for the Arizona BLM's fuels management program. A weak 2005 monsoon followed by persistent dry conditions through the winter of 2005-2006 prevented managers from implementing projects involving prescribed fire. Unable to foresee favorable conditions for implementing prescribed fire projects to meet resource management objectives, fire and fuels managers shifted their emphasis to mechanical and other non-fire treatments. These treatments were designed to help protect communities like Pine Lakes, Martinez Lake, Black Canyon City, Yarnell, and Cascabel, or to break-up the continuity of fuel in and around areas like Mount Trumbull, Mittry Lake, San Pedro National Conservation Area, Pinion Pine, and Truxton. By reducing hazardous fuels these projects also assisted restoration efforts associated with riparian areas, ponderosa pine & pinyon-juniper forests, interior chaparral communities, and desert grasslands. Overall, the Arizona BLM program managed to accomplish 8,090 of 11,512 acre target for treatment inside Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) or 70%. Outside of Wildland Urban Interface, the BLM treated 9,526 of the 21,750 acre target or 44%. While these target accomplishments are lower than desired, they illustrate the continued emphasis on the Wildland urban interface and reflect the fact that weather and fuel conditions were out of prescription for the implementation of prescribed fire projects. Finally, the Arizona BLM program is proud of these accomplishments given the demands placed on firefighters and program managers throughout the protracted 2005 fire and hurricane season and early onset of the 2006 season in the Southern and Southwestern areas. Firefighters were working in the hurricane affected areas throughout the fall and in relief efforts through the winter, switching gears back to firefighting in the very start of the New Year in Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

BLM PERSPECTIVE: The 2006 wildland fire season was another above average season, with more fires than 2006. The season started earlier; however, early management preparations, mobilization of national resources, and coordination with interagency partners assisted in keeping acreage losses lower than 2006. Additionally, BLM Arizona provided expertise in the development of community wildfire protection plans, provided grants and assistance to enhance rural fire department capability, and also accomplished over 53% of the fuels targets.

CONTACT:

Elaine Zielinski, BLM State Director, (602) 417-9500



Arizona Land Use Planning Update

September 2006

Agua Fria National Monument and Bradshaw - Harquahala Land Use Plans

- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting January 6 and will continue to April 7, 2006. Ten informal meetings to introduce ePlanning and 8 formal public comment meetings were held in January, February, and March 2006. Approximately 1,500 comments letters were received by post and email.
- The Proposed RMP/Final EIS is scheduled to be ready for publication in early 2007.

Sonoran Desert National Monument and Lower Sonoran Land Use Plans

- The RMP/EIS planning effort is nearing completion of the preferred alternative development and impact analysis stages. The Draft RMP/Draft EIS will be released for 90 days of public review in early 2007. Public meetings will be held during the public review period.

Lake Havasu Field Office Land Use Plan

- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting September 30 to December 30, 2005. Public meetings were held in October 2005.
- The Proposed RMP/Final EIS is scheduled to be published September 22, 2006. The Record of Decision is scheduled to be published in May 2007.

Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument/Vermilion Cliffs National Monument/Arizona Strip Field Office Land Use Plans

- National Park Service and BLM staffs are jointly completing the planning effort, with assistance from Lake Mead National Recreation Area staff.
- The Draft RMP/Draft EIS was released for a 90-day public comment period starting November 25, 2005 to March 17, 2006. Eight public meetings were held in January 2006.
- The volume of public comments received was quite significant (over 10,000 comments). Review and response to the comments has occurred throughout the summer.
- The Proposed RMP/Final EIS is scheduled to be published by November 2006.

Ironwood Forest National Monument Land Use Plan

- State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in February 2005. The Draft

RMP/Draft EIS has been reviewed by the State Office resources staff during this summer. The NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published by the end of 2006.

Las Cienegas National Conservation Area Land Use Plan

- The BLM completed the RMP with the help of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP), through a five-year collaborative planning effort. The SVPP is a voluntary association of federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and private citizens who share a common interest in the resources and management of the public lands within the Sonoita Valley, including the upper watershed of Cienega Creek.
- The Approved RMP and Record of Decision were signed on July 25, 2003 by the Arizona State Director. An Implementation Strategy is being developed with the assistance of the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership (SVPP) and others.

Arizona LUP Amendment for Fire, Fuels and Air Quality Management

- The notice of availability (NOA) for the Proposed LUP Amendment, Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment was published April 9, 2004. Release of the NOA began the 30-day protest period on the Proposed LUP Amendment, which closed on May 10, 2004. No letters of protest were received.
- Arizona BLM received the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion on September 3, 2004. The Statewide LUP Amendment and Decision Record was approved by the State Director on September 28, 2004.

Yuma Land Use Plan

- State Office review of preliminary alternatives began in May 2005. Five (5) public meetings were held during the week of July 25-29, 2005, on the preliminary alternatives. These meetings were held in Yuma, Quartzsite, Tucson, and Wellton, AZ, and Blythe, CA. Development of the preferred alternatives began during the week of August 22-26, 2005.
- **The Draft RMP/Draft EIS is currently being reviewed by the State Office resources staff and Washington Office staff. The Federal Register NOA for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS should be published in November 2006. The Final RMP is scheduled for release by the end of 2007.**

San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area and Tucson Field Office Land Use Plans

- The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (San Pedro RNCA) is located within the Tucson Field Office. Public lands in the San Pedro RNCA are managed under the Safford RMP (1992, 1994) and San Pedro RNCA Management Plan (1989).
- Fiscal year 2005 was the initial year of funding for this planning effort. The San Pedro RNCA RMP will be combined with the Tucson Field Office RMP (Tucson RMP) under one planning effort. The Tucson RMP will address all remaining BLM administered lands not covered by the Las Cienegas NCA, Ironwood Forest National Monument, and San Pedro RNCA RMPs.
- **The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare both land use plans was published in the Federal Register on September 2, 2005. The scoping report should be approved in September 2006.**

National Public Lands Day

2006 Outdoor Recreation Fair

Free Family Fun!

City of Phoenix
North Mountain Visitor Center
12950 North 7th Street
Phoenix, Arizona



© Richard Allen - Gemland

Don't Miss This Amazing Event!

Over 50 Public Land &
Outdoor Agencies!

Live Wildlife!

Kid's Zone!

Rock Climbing Wall!

Entertainment!

Free Workshops!

Food Court!

Volunteer Project!

Bird Release at 11:00 a.m.!

*General parking is at the Visitors Center
Club across the street from the event.
Free shuttles are available for those
needing assistance. Disabled parking is
available on-site at the visitor center.*

Presented by:



City of Phoenix
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION



Pointe Hilton
Tapatio Cliffs Resort

Helping Hands for America's Lands

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands American's enjoy. Last year nearly 90,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants. Join us for the 13th annual National Public Lands Day and help us care for our land.

You are invited to join in the fun at one of the many events scattered around Arizona in September and October.

In the Phoenix area, four events will take place with two events occurring in October:

What: North Mountain Preserve Volunteer Project and Outdoor Recreation Fair
Where: Phoenix North Mountain Preserve (just south of Thunderbird on 7th St.)
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Contact: Heather Watson at (602) 495-5540

What: Big Bug Area Cleanup (Partnership between the Upper Agua Fria Watershed Partnership and the Good Gun Foundation)
Where: Big Bug Area north of Phoenix
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Contact: (928) 632-7135

What: Black Canyon Trail Construction
Where: Black Canyon City north of Phoenix
Date: Saturday, October 14, 2006
Time: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Contact: Rich Hanson at (623) 580-5596 or visit www.bctaz.com

What: Arizona Antiquities Centennial Festival
Where: Agua Fria National Monument, north of Phoenix
Date: Saturday, October 21, 2006
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Kathy Pedrick at (602) 417-9235

In Lake Havasu a unique underwater archaeology event will take place:

What: Lake Havasu Underwater Archaeology Site Mapping, Photography and Non-historic Debris Removal
Where: Lake Havasu
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 8 a.m. to noon
Contact: Sally Murray at (928) 505-1238 or Diane Williams (928) 505-1250

In the Yuma area, National Public Lands Day will be celebrated at Palo Verde Point Area.

What: Protecting Archaeology Sites in the Palo Verde Point Area, fencing and interpretive sign installation
Where: Palo Verde Point Area
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: Meet at the Yuma BLM office at 7 a.m., returning by 2 p.m.
Contact: Lori Cook at (928) 317-3243

Tucson is hosting two events to celebrate National Public Lands Day. One will be on the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area southeast of Tucson, and the other will be near Florence.

What: Empire Ranch Foundation Roundup, Open house and western art show and sale.
Where: Las Cienegas National Conservation Area
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Contact: Catie Fenn at (520) 258-7204 or visit www.empireranchfoundation.org

What: Cottonwood Canyon Trail work and interpretive sign installation.
Where: Cottonwood Canyons
Date: Saturday, September 30, 2006
Time: 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Jane Childress at (520) 439-6425

Agua Fria Festival

Saturday, October 21, 2006 / 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrating 100 Years of archaeology, history & paleontology on public lands



FREE FAMILY FUN

Experience a day of fun and learning. Explore the homes of the prehistoric past. Meet living legends that once roamed public lands. Listen to tales of the old west. And much more!

COME ENJOY

Prehistoric Ruins – Pueblo la Plata, Badger Ruin

Old-West History – Wild West Characters, AZ Balladeer Dolan Ellis and
AZ State Historian Marshall Trimble

Scenic Hike – Badger Spring Wash

Native American Music & Dance – Yellow Bird Family Entertainers & Others

Children's Activities – Pendant & Bracelet Making, Atlatl Throwing,
Burro Petting & More

EVENT LOCATION

Hosted at the Horseshoe Ranch in the heart of BLM's Agua Fria National Monument,
forty miles north of Phoenix. Take Interstate 17 to Bloody Basin Road
(Exit 259), and travel 5 miles east to Horseshoe Ranch

Please visit our web site www.blm.gov/az/ for a complete schedule of events.

Antiquities Celebration – Agua Fria Festival
October 21, 2006 Schedule of Events
Agua Fria National Monument - Horseshoe Ranch

9 a.m. - Opening of Festival

Arizona Ranching stories – Alan Day

Yellow Bird Hoop Dancers / music

Stories of the Frontier West - Fannie

11 a.m. - Recognition Ceremony - Come and help us recognize all the wonderful sponsors and volunteers. Learn about the Antiquities Act and why it is important to you.

Songs and Stories of Arizona - Dolan Ellis and Marshall Trimble

Yellow Bird Hoop Dancers /music

Rock Art slide show

Discussion on current archaeological research

4 p.m. - Festival concludes

Hikes and Tours

8 a.m. - Birding hike along the Agua Fria River – meet at Horseshoe Ranch.

All Day - Badger Springs Hike – Self-led hike to Agua Fria River. Exit 256 Badger Springs Road.

The following tours may require reservations
Only High Clearance Vehicles Allowed

10 a.m. and 1 p.m. – Badger Ruin Hike, Ranger led. **Reservations required.**
Call 623/580-5500.

10 a.m. and 2 p.m. - Tonto National Forest site tours. Meet at the Pueblo la Plata kiosk.
Reservations required. Call 602/225-5231

All Day - Pueblo la Plata, Self-led tours of Pueblo la Plata. Go eight (8) miles east of I-17 on Bloody Basin Road. Archaeologists will be on site to answer questions.

10 a.m. and 1 p.m. – Presentations by archaeologists on current research at Pueblo la Plata.



Joanie
Losacco/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI
08/09/2006 03:51 PM

To Andy_Jacobs@kyl.senate.gov,
Carlos_Sierra@mccain.senate.gov,
Crystal_Caballero@mccain.senate.gov,
mary.baumbach@mail.house.gov,
ron.piceno@mail.house.gov,
maura.saavedra@mail.house.gov,
bruce.raden@mail.house.gov,
kay.mcloughlin@mail.house.gov,
bernadette.polley@mail.house.gov,
brian.murray@mail.house.gov,
teresa.martinez@mail.house.gov,
keith.alexander@mail.house.gov,
shari.farrington@mail.house.gov,
gloria.montano@mail.house.gov,
glenn.miller@mail.house.gov,
rachel.kondor@mail.house.gov,
ruben.reyes@mail.house.gov, ryan.serote@mail.house.gov

cc

bcc Deborah Stevens/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject September Cong Staff Briefing

Hi Everyone,
I've scheduled the next Bureau of Land Management quarterly congressional staff briefing for Tuesday, September 26, at 9 a.m. Please let me know if anyone has conflicts with the September date. I will remind you again, as the date gets closer. As usual, we will hold the meeting at the BLM office at One North Central Avenue in the Phelps Dodge Tower. Let me know if there are any topics of interest you would like to see on the agenda. I look forward to seeing you in September!

Joanie Losacco
Deputy State Director, Communications
Bureau of Land Management
One North Central Avenue, Ste. 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-417-9405



"Sierra, Carlos \(\McCain\)"
<Carlos_Sierra@mccain.senate.gov>

08/14/2006 11:04 AM

To <Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject RE: September Cong Staff Briefing

Sorry, I'll be up in Page the 26th-28th.

-----Original Message-----

From: Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov [mailto:Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 09, 2006 3:51 PM
To: Jacobs, Andy (Kyl); Sierra, Carlos (McCain); Caballero, Crystal (McCain); mary.baumbach@mail.house.gov; ron.piceno@mail.house.gov; maura.saaavedra@mail.house.gov; bruce.raden@mail.house.gov; kay.mcloughlin@mail.house.gov; bernadette.polley@mail.house.gov; brian.murray@mail.house.gov; teresa.martinez@mail.house.gov; keith.alexander@mail.house.gov; shari.farrington@mail.house.gov; gloria.montano@mail.house.gov; glenn.miller@mail.house.gov; rachel.kondor@mail.house.gov; ruben.reyes@mail.house.gov; ryan.serote@mail.house.gov
Subject: September Cong Staff Briefing

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Joanie Losacco
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Bureau of Land Management
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602-417-9405



Joanie
Losacco/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI
09/20/2006 01:00 PM

To Andy_Jacobs@kyl.senate.gov,
Carlos_Sierra@mccain.senate.gov,
Crystal_Caballero@mccain.senate.gov,
mary.baumbach@mail.house.gov,
ron.piceno@mail.house.gov,
maura.saavedra@mail.house.gov,
bruce.raden@mail.house.gov,
kay.mcloughlin@mail.house.gov,
bernadette.polley@mail.house.gov,
brian.murray@mail.house.gov,
teresa.martinez@mail.house.gov,
keith.alexander@mail.house.gov,
shari.farrington@mail.house.gov,
gloria.montano@mail.house.gov,
glenn.miller@mail.house.gov,
rachel.kondor@mail.house.gov,
ruben.reyes@mail.house.gov, ryan.serote@mail.house.gov

cc

bcc Deborah Stevens/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject TUESDAY BRIEFING

Hi All,

This is a reminder of the BLM Quarterly congressional staff briefing scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, at 9 a.m. We will be meeting at the BLM office, One North Central Avenue (Phelps Dodge Building).

If I haven't already heard from you, please respond to this email to let me know if you will be able to attend.

Also, at the meeting, could you plan to let us know of any updates on legislation regarding public lands issues of interest that may be ongoing.

For parking, enter the garage on 1st Street, between Washington and Adams Streets. Take a ticket and park anywhere on floor B1 that doesn't have a reserved sign. Take the elevator from the parking garage to the lobby. From the lobby take elevator to the 8th floor where the BLM Public Room is located. Get a visitor's pass and I will meet you there to escort you to the conference room. Your parking ticket will be validated in the public room when you depart.

See you Tuesday!

Joanie Losacco
Deputy State Director, Communications
Bureau of Land Management
602-417-9405